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Volume 12, number 6
June 1991

Newsline

CORPORATE NEWS

New president, new directions for Alberta Research Council

The early months of 1991 have seen bold new directions for the Research Council. **Dr. Brian Barge**, vice-president for Development and Planning, was appointed president and chief executive officer of the Research Council, succeeding **Dr. Clem Bowman** who retired May 31. This marks the first internal appointment for president in the history of the Research Council.

The public announcement was made April 25 by **Fred Stewart**, minister, Technology, Research and Telecommunications, and **Fred Bradley**, M.L.A. and chairman of the Board of Directors for the Research Council.

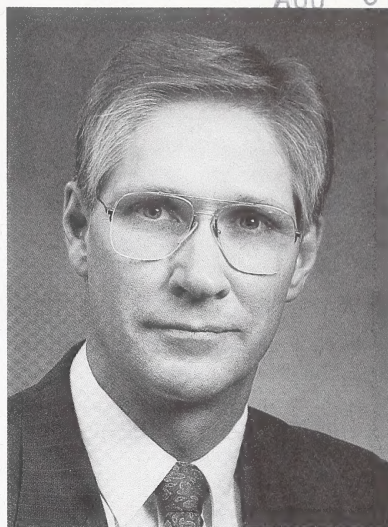
"Dr. Barge brings to his new position first-hand knowledge of the organization and the challenges facing research and development," said Mr. Bradley. "He has been intimately involved in the development of the Research Council's corporate plan, *A Vision to the Year 2000*. His appointment carries with it the mandate to make that vision a reality."

On May 7, the new corporate plan was officially launched during simultaneous ceremonies in Edmonton and Calgary.

Linked by microwave transmission, the plan was introduced by Mr. Bradley, Mr. Stewart, Dr. Bowman and Dr. Barge. Key government, business, and media representatives, numbering more than 100 in each city, were present for the first public introduction of the ambitious plan. Research Council staff were invited to information sessions May 6.

The corporate plan, spearheaded by Dr. Bowman and Dr. Barge, will take the Research Council into the 21st century as an internationally recognized technology corporation, and a valued partner in the emergence of a globally competitive Alberta.

Copies of *A Vision to the Year 2000* may be obtained by calling Corporate Affairs, 450-5144. □



Dr. Brian Barge, president and chief executive officer of the Alberta Research Council.



Prominent business, government and education leaders attended the public launch of the Research Council's corporate plan. From left to right: Sandy Mactaggart, president of MacLab Enterprises and chancellor of the University of Alberta; Dr. Bob Crawford, Dean of Science, University of Alberta; Dr. Bob James, vice-president of Research, University of Alberta, and member of the Research Council's Board of Directors.

AT A GLANCE

- * Our new president
- * Children's safety contest
- * Shad Valley '91
- * Employees on the move
- * Safety volunteers honored
- * Technology Line profile

Newsline is a monthly publication for the employees of the Alberta Research Council.

Please send all submissions and direct all questions to John Barry, Editor
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**ALBERTA
RESEARCH
COUNCIL**

70 Years of R&D
1921-1991

HEALTH & SAFETY

Safety at the Alberta Research Council – Volunteers make it happen!

More than 200 staff at the Research Council volunteer on 15 safety committees. These dedicated individuals are committed to providing safe working procedures for all employees. We salute the hard work of these individuals – volunteers who make it happen!

MILLWOODS

Safety Committee: Don Peckham, Earl Hadfield, Rob Wellwood, Dianne Goulet, Don Gitzel, Gerry Scott

★ ★ ★

Evacuation Wardens: John Newton, Dwayne Friesen, Arther Chan, Bob Silliphant, Pat Fung, Paul Grey, Lesley White, Tony Green, Raj Nagarajan, Laura Siever, Alice Ellendt, Lesley Sheppard, Jim Kinasewich, Garry Cardinal, Pierre Mostert, Ford Bergwall, Donna Saranchuk, Peter Redberger, Sharon Thompson, Wayne McKean, Hope Tupper, Brian Rebus, Dan Wispinski, Earl Hadfield, Sharon Armstrong, Bill Winters, Dale Bessette, Sig Hollemeyer, Virgilio Celino, Karin Schiele, Lee Cardwell, Bruce Mallas, Peter Taylor, Kelly Allen, Leo Regnier, Lorne Bradley, Dan Magee, Beryl Robinson, Helen Power, Fay Galbraith, Lesley Latimer, Florence Winters, Barb Storms, Millie Miles, Sue Stadler, Tiera Kureluk, Gail Batog, Barbara Ducasse

★ ★ ★

Emergency Response Crew: Fritz Kamprath, Ed Zacharuk, Jack Nelson, Wolf Gut, Dennis Ward, Joe Beres, Dave McLachlan, Bruce Batog, Lorne Duncan

CALGARY

Safety Committee: Brian Hipkin, Arlene Bull, Pat Feighan, Blair Davies

★ ★ ★

Evacuation Wardens: Kar-ling Cheng, Leona Kwasnitza, Gail Grout, Donna Wauters, Dean Rosychuk, Lynn Sutherland, Penny Rokeby, Piotr Wojcik,

Jean Desrosiers, Dave Thomson, Jeff White, Arlene Bull, Ena Spalding, Ken Wallewein, Mark Brinsmead, Gable Chau, Arlene Merling

TERRACE PLAZA

Safety Committee: Michael Huemmert, Doug Boisvert, Rose Marie Belfry

★ ★ ★

Evacuation Wardens: Tim Berezniuk, Laurence Andriashek, Jennifer Maltby, Maureen FitzGerald, Daphne Cheel, Richard Stein, Jennie Lutz, Joe Tajek, John Pawlowicz, Larry Turchenek, Campbell Kidston, Roman Krzanowski, Rick Richardson, Joe Olic, Wylie Hamilton, Michel Brulotte, Andre Lytviak, Kelly Roberts

CLOVER BAR

Safety Committee: Phil Harris, Naomi Moor, Dan Prowse, John Thomas, Shauna Cameron, Randy Alex

★ ★ ★

Evacuation Wardens: Norma Forrest, Kirk Green, Jane Sundby, Arthur Willis, John Ivory, Brian Fuhr, Raj Rajan, Marlene Stefaniszyn, Don Morrison, Linda Gray, Jackie Charette, Yvonne Mariacci, Lina Klein, Brian Hunt, Clare McCarthy, Janet Hay, Kevin Rispler, Mike Danysh, Kathy Pongar, Al Ewanchuk, Gerald Korpany, Mario DeRocco, Joe Berlingo, George Vilcsak, Gerry Pierce, Phil Harris, Ken Forshner, Colin Cathrea, Chris Jossy, Gerald Kissel, Gurdeep Purewal, Ray Tookey

★ ★ ★

Emergency Response Crew: Ed Jossy, Hart Golbeck, Gerry Pierce, Brian Wiwchar, Bernice Young, Kiry Non Chhom, Roland Kallechy, Darrol Maunder, Cindy Holland, Frank Tosto, Kevin Rispler

NISKU

Safety Committee: Gilles Beaulieu, Ron Zacharkiw, Dixon Fong, Toshio Ohuchi, Gerard Morrison, Dan Lorden, Peter Simpson

★ ★ ★

Evacuation Wardens: Richard Lott, Dorothy Clark, Gilles Beaulieu, Mary Ann Sorochan, Dixon Fong

★ ★ ★

Emergency Response Crew: Ron Zacharkiw, Lindsay Logan, Jim Wilson, George Kovacik, Randy Hawkins, Rick Foisy

DEVON

Safety Committee: Marty Schurek, George Janiak, Tom Manske, Joyce Moir, Dick Parker, Gerard Morrison

★ ★ ★

Evacuation Wardens: Tom Manske, Rita Schultz, Teresa Williams, Leigh Falkenberg, Asya Linetsky, Cal Murray, Anna Truong, Richard McFarlane, Thomas Gentzis

★ ★ ★

Emergency Response Crew: Gordon Heck, Kent Ceasar, Brent Miller, Ed Taylor, Chris Thompson, Kevin Valastin

SPECIAL SAFETY COMMITTEES

Biotechnology: Alan Jones, Lesley Witte, Mike Brandingen, Ella Keshavarz, Walt Leps, Bob Silliphant

★ ★ ★

Field Safety: Doug Boisvert, Bill Sadoway, Faye Nikiforuk, Al Kolenosky, Thomas Gentzis, Bernice Young, Don Scafe, Brenda Sawyer

★ ★ ★

Joint Health & Safety: Lisa Hermanutz, Rob Wellwood, Alan Sanger, Dorothy Hollands, Janis Koehler, Gilles Beaulieu, Anne Koots, Robert Green, Don Murray

★ ★ ★

Radiation: Joe MacGillivray, Phil Harris, Martin Stanley-Jones, Robert Green, Eugene Parranto, Nina Merchant

★ ★ ★

Advanced First Aiders: Bernice Young, Gerry Pierce, Tim Berezniuk □

Safety Week – June 17-21

Corporate safety requirement 10 explained

Newsline continues its outline of corporate safety requirements, this month featuring point 10.

10.

The Alberta Research Council will establish safe work environments to minimize risk to employees

Policy detail

Employers, supervisors and employees have a shared responsibility towards safety in the workplace.

The employer must provide a safe and healthy workplace and take every precaution reasonably practicable to ensure the protection and safety of all staff.

Information, instruction and supervision regarding safety practices and potential hazards relevant to employees' health shall be provided. Controlled products (hazardous substances or chemicals) require labelling and material safety data sheets (MSDSs). Standards will be adopted limiting the amount of exposure employees have to toxic materials according to values imposed by the American Conference of Government Industrial Hygienists.

All equipment, materials and protective devices provided to employees must be maintained in good condition.

The law requires that workers must take reasonable care to protect the health and safety of themselves and of others present while working.

Workers must cooperate with their employer for the purposes of protecting

the health and safety of:

- 1) *themselves*
- 2) *other workers engaged in the work of the employer*
- 3) *other workers not engaged in the work of the employer but present at the work site where the work is being carried out*

Occupational Health, Safety and Hygiene will be responsible for ensuring a safe work environment – by conducting primary and random audits of work areas, making recommendations as required, and by providing all relevant information and training for employee safety. Research Council departments will maintain the safe environment.

Processes involving biological agents must be approved by the Biosafety Advisory Committee. Initial approval can be given by the designated biosafety officer, with final approval from the committee. □

LIGHTER SIDE

“Can you give me a little more information?” – A profile of the Technology Line –

When you need to know more about burning chips, rock density, time setting or which mathematical formula to use – who are you going to call?

Forget the Ghostbusters, you need the Alberta Research Council's Technology Line.

One phone call opens a window to expertise in a wide range of scientific fields. The toll-free line is available to Alberta business and government clients, requiring quick access to the latest in technical problem solving and know-how. A call to the Technology Line can help organizations gain the edge they need in today's competitive marketplace.

Fielding more than 3,000 phone calls per year, Technology Line staff are skilled in tracking down an answer to almost any technical question. However, even the most knowledgeable personnel are stumped by callers who lack specific information or just do not know what they need.

With input from Program Coordinator

Leslie Black, **Newsline** offers a light-hearted look at some of the “real” questions received by the Technology Line. These examples show how Technology Line staff must often become detectives to determine correct answers from vague inquirers.

1. “I want information on burning chips?”

This person wanted to know:

- a. more about the environmental impact of using wood pellets in a fireplace
- b. about storing information on a silicon chip
- c. what causes french fries to smoke

2. “Who sets the time?”

This person wanted to know:

- a. who determines the time zones
- b. who determines the accuracy of time signals

continued on page five

ON THE MOVE

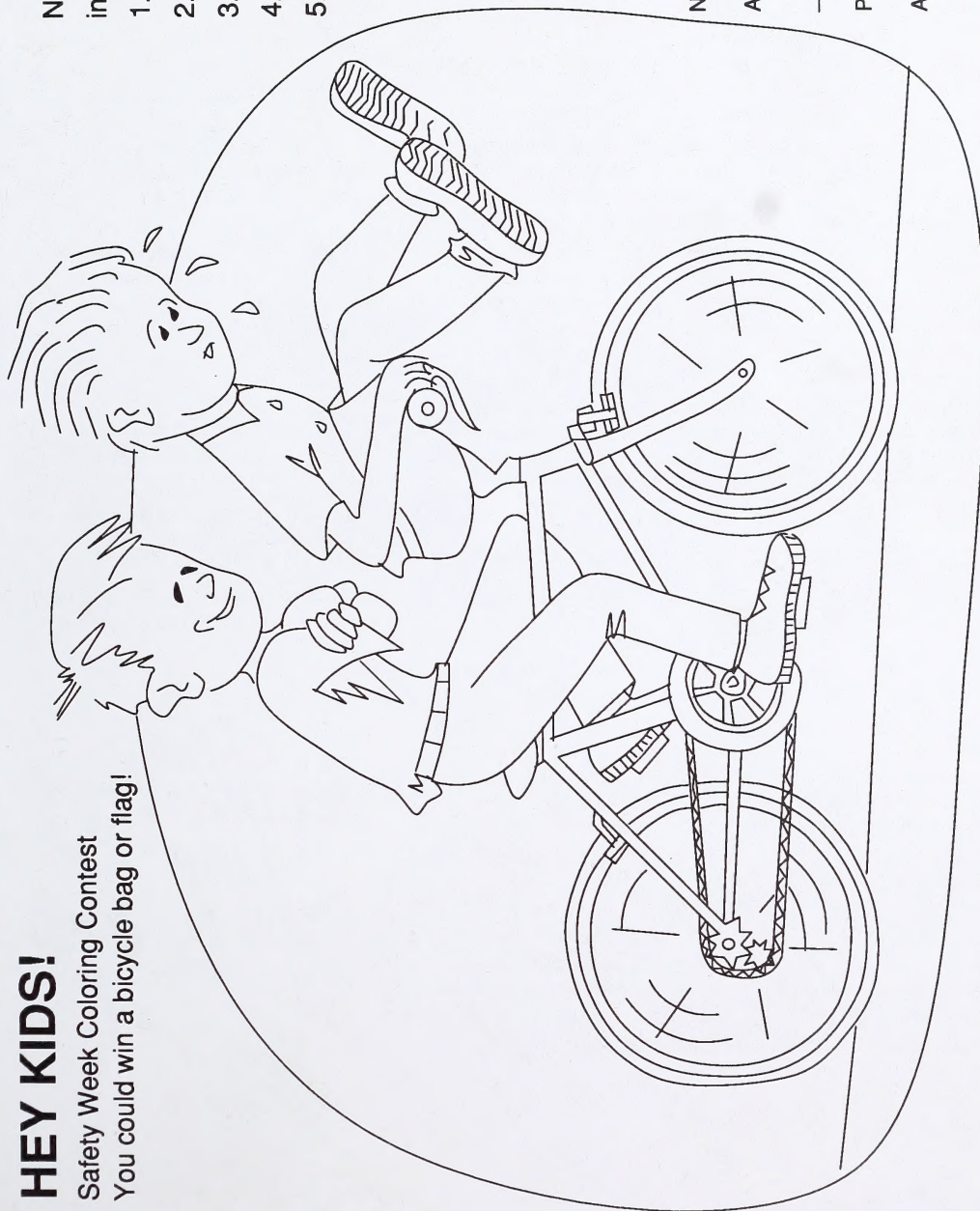
Employee changes

We welcome to the Alberta Research Council: **Kent Ceaser**, Coal and Hydrocarbon Recovery; **Kelly Furnell**, Financial Services; **Don Thacker**, Environmental Research and Engineering.

We wish the following well in their future endeavors: **Jennie Bilodeau**, Biotechnology; **Joan Davis**, Financial Services; **Susan Dooley**, Calgary Operations; **Gary Nevison**, Advanced Computing and Engineering; **Arlene Nixon**, Financial Services; **Claudia Palylyk**, Environmental Research and Engineering; **Jamie Stanley**, Administrative Services; **Dale Wascherol**, Manufacturing Technologies; **Pam Yule-Charles**, Manufacturing Technologies. **Mary Marcano**, Manufacturing Technologies has been reassigned to the National Research Council. □

HEY KIDS!

Safety Week Coloring Contest
You could win a bicycle bag or flag!



Name five things wrong
in this picture:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Age: _____

ARC relative: _____

CONTEST RULES: Open to children up to and including age 12, who are related to an employee of the Alberta Research Council. Name at least five things wrong in the picture in the spaces provided. Color and return by June 30, 1991 to Occupational Health, Safety and Hygiene (Mill Woods). A random draw of correct entries will be made on July 2. Winners will be notified by phone or mail and announced in Newsline.

Research Council sponsors Shad Valley student

Summer holidays will soon arrive and school kids will flock to the parks, pools and beaches to enjoy those long, hot days. Some students, however, would prefer to spend their summer working.

Just ask **Chad Conrad**, a 17-year-old grade 12 student at William Aberhart Senior High School in Calgary. Chad will be sponsored by the Research Council during this year's Shad Valley Summer Program.

Each year since 1981, 400 high school students across Canada participate in the program, founded by the Canadian Centre for Creative Technology in Waterloo, Ontario. The program offers exceptionally talented students an opportunity to deepen their interest in science and technology, while enjoying a four-week stay on campus at one of five participating universities: Calgary, British Columbia, Manitoba, Waterloo and New Brunswick.

Chad will study at the University of Calgary prior to joining the Advanced

Computing and Engineering Department for a five-week paid work term, beginning July 29.

In addition to a demanding schedule studying new concepts in mathematics, computing, engineering and entrepreneurship; students enjoy field trips and leisure activities, learning new skills and making new friendships.

Roy Masrani, group leader of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Operations, has plans for Chad to design a "movie" on the history and applications of AI. "Using multimedia production computer software, Chad will cover the early days of AI in the 1950s and work his way to the present. I will use the results of his work to talk about the industrial benefits of AI on a speaking circuit of Canada."

The Research Council has previously sponsored students in the Advanced Computing and Engineering, Biotechnology and Coal and Hydrocarbon Processing Departments. □

LIGHTER SIDE

(continued from page three)

- c. who decides when and if we are on daylight savings time
- d. he wasn't sure . . . his boss told him to call the Research Council and find out "who sets the time"

3. "I need some help calculating a mathematical formula."

This could mean:

- a. how to convert from Btu/lb to MJ/kg
- b. what the Research Council uses for "G" in viscosity calculations
- c. how to calculate half of one and one-third cups for Grandma's amazing chocolate chip cookie recipe
- d. all of the above

4. "How much does a rock weigh if it is 5'x3'x3'? I want to know if my bob cat will be able to move it. Oh, and by the way, it's granite."

- a. 1 tonne
- b. weight = 2.7 g/c^3
- c. weight = 166 lb/ft^3
- d. a lot
- e. b and c

If you answered **b** for #1, **d** for #2, **d** for #3 and **e** for #4 give yourself a pat on the back, you would make a great sleuth and Technology Line employee. For further information, who are you going to call?

Did you know? ...

The Science and Technology Division of Statistics Canada recently released 1989/1990 survey results from Canada's eight major provincial research institutes. Some highlights follow:

- In 1989, the Alberta Research Council was the largest employer of all the provincial research institutes, with 29 per cent of total staff.
- Scientists and engineers accounted for 45 per cent of the total staff for all organizations. Of these scientists and engineers, 21 per cent had doctorates,

24 per cent masters' degrees and 47 per cent bachelors' degrees.

- The Alberta Research Council employed the largest number of scientists and engineers (294), followed by the Centre de recherche industrielle du Quebec (208) and Ontario's ORTECH International (135).
- Of the Alberta Research Council's scientific staff, 91 had doctorates and 86 had masters' degrees, more than any other provincial research institute. □

**The
Technology
Line**

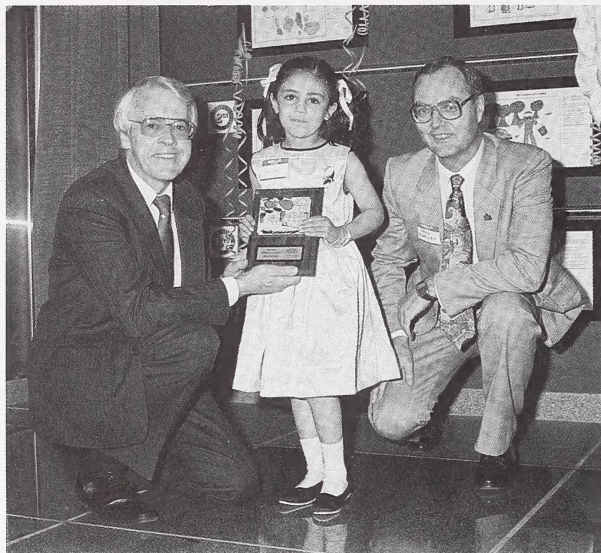
1-800-661-2000
IN EDMONTON 450-5000

LIGHTER SIDE

A fun for all at children's art unveiling!

Aspiring Van Goghs, El Grecos and Picassos celebrated the Research Council's 70th anniversary at the Children's Art Contest unveiling, May 1 at Mill Woods.

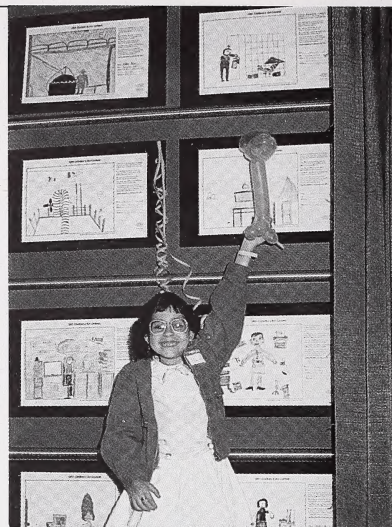
The 71 contest participants, ages four to 17, were invited with their families to enjoy an evening of presentations, and entertainment. **Newsline** looks back in review. □



Dr. Clem Bowman and Fred Bradley, chairman of the Board (shown here with Karishma Singh, five, daughter of Dr. Surindar Singh, Oil Sands and Hydrocarbon Recovery) presented plaques and certificates to the children.

Top: Liane Proulx, eight, daughter of Dr. Gilbert Proulx points to her drawing.

Bottom: Balloon twister, Michael Ouchi (left), and the Litterbug mascot were kept busy.



STAFF NOTES

Advanced Computing and Engineering

— The International Conference on Object-Oriented Manufacturing Systems (ICOOMS '92) will be held at the University of Calgary, May 4-6, 1992. The conference is sponsored in part by the Advanced Computing and Engineering Department. ICOOMS '92 is intended as a forum for those interested in the rapidly developing field of object-oriented programs and systems, within manufacturing at the research, development and application levels. If you are interested in participating, papers/abstracts must be submitted by July 15, 1991. Contact **Dr. Aldo Dagnino**, 297-2657.

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The Association of Coal Mining Municipalities of Western Canada will be holding their annual conference, June 11-13, at the Coast Terrace Inn Edmonton. Guest speakers include the **Honorable**

Ralph Klein, minister of Alberta Environment, **Fred Bradley**, M.L.A. and chairman of the Board, and **Dennis Nikols**, Alberta Geological Survey. Also speaking will be executives representing TransAlta Utilities, Fording Coal, Luscar, Coal Association of Canada, International Union of Operating Engineers, and B.C. Energy, Mines and Resources.

Alberta Geological Survey, Coal and Hydrocarbon Processing, Environmental Research and Engineering, Alberta Energy, and the Canada Centre for Mineral and Energy Technology (CANMET) will host displays at the conference, which concludes with a tour of the Coal Research Centre in Devon and one of the TransAlta power generation facilities nearby.

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Teachers go to school — The Alberta Research Council is committed to promoting greater science and technology awareness

to the public.

With this in mind, the Coal and Hydrocarbon Processing Department (CAHP) invited local teachers to a half day seminar April 29, held in conjunction with the Leduc/Devon teacher professional development day.

Dorothy Hollands, director of Corporate Affairs, presented an overview of the Alberta Research Council and the Teachers' Research Experience Program to an audience of 45 educators. In addition, **Dr. Arvid Hardin**, department head, provided an overview of the CAHP department and **Nels Andersen**, head of Special Projects for the Canada Centre for Mineral and Energy Technology (CANMET), supplied background information on his organization. The session concluded with a tour of the Coal Research Centre.

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